

## ABSTRACT

An apparatus is disclosed for an electrically variable optical attenuator. The apparatus is comprised of an Electrically Switchable Bragg Grating device and a polarization-converting reflector. The polarization-converting reflector may be a one-quarter-wave retardation plate or a 45-degree Faraday rotation plate in combination with a mirror. The electrically variable optical attenuator is suited for use in fiber optic communications systems.